(e) The rice production achieved during 1991-92 was 74.68 million tonnes and during 1992-93, 72.61 million tonnes.

Production of coarse grains

2089. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the crops covered under the coarse grains are Jowar and Bajra;

(b) whether most of the crops directly benefit the small and marginal farmers;

(c) if so, whether coarse Cereals are cultivated on about 36.5 million hectares of land;

(d) if so, what extent the coarse grains production increased during 7th Five Year Plan;

(e) to what extent this production of coarse grains increased in 1991;

(f) to what extent the targets for 1992-93 were achieved;

(g) by what time the area under cultivation of coarse grains have increased; and

(h) what are the States where the coarse grains are generally produced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Besides Jowar and Bajra, the crops covered under the coarse grains are Maize, Ragi, Small Millets and Barley.

(b) The coarse grain crops benefits all classes of the farmers including the small and marginal ones on unirrigated area where these crops are generally cultivated.

(c) The area under coarse grains during 1992-93 was estimated at 34.77 million hectares.

(d) The compound growth rate of coarse grains production during 7th Five Year Plan was 3.13 per cent per annum.

(e) The production of coarse grains did not increase in 1990-91 and 1991-92.

(f) The production of coarse grains was estimated at 37.04 million tonnes as against the target of 34.25 million tonnes for 92-93.

(g) The area under coarse grains has shown increasing trend till late sixties.

(h) The major States where the coarse grains are generally produced include Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

Transfer of the Agricultural Research Contracts to a Private Association

2090. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has transferred the control of the previous Agricultural Research centres to a private association;

(b) if so, whether the Bombay-based Central Institute of Research on Cotton under the control of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, has been transferred to Textile Merchants Association of Indian Cotton Development Council;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether this transfer has been greatly opposed by various authorities;

(e) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider its earlier decision; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) to (f) Do not arise.